



# IRVINE-LAGUNA WILDLIFE CORRIDOR

Connecting Habitats from Mountains to Coast

A PROJECT OF LAGUNA GREENBELT, INC.

## THIS NEWSLETTER'S FEATURED ARTICLES:

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## WHY WE LOVE OUR CORRIDOR

During this season of love, we want to share the many reasons why we appreciate the progress that has been made in creating the Irvine-Laguna Wildlife Corridor (ILWC) and its amazing multi-functional benefits. We must begin by thanking current and past members of Laguna Greenbelt, Inc. and other local organizations

such as Laguna Canyon Conservancy and Laguna Canyon Foundation that have worked tirelessly to protect open space in Orange County. Decades of advocacy and campaigning have led to more than 22,000 beautiful acres of preserved land.



A major milestone was achieved in 2013 when the Irvine City Council adopted the Irvine Wildlife Corridor Plan! The 6-mile corridor will link the 22,000 acres of protected natural lands in the Laguna Coast Wilderness and Newport Beach wildlands to the more than 150,000 acres of wilderness around the Santa Ana Mountains, including Cleveland National Forest, Whiting Ranch, and Limestone Canyon. This plan is the product of collaborative work between the developer of the Great Park Neighborhoods (FivePoint) and a coalition led by Laguna Greenbelt Inc.

The ILWC is amazing because this critical linkage helps connect our wildlife to genetically different populations, have access to more resources, and provides alternative routes for safety during natural disasters such as wildfires. This corridor



doesn't just aid our fauna and allows our native plant life to spread through wind, water, and wildlife. This leads us to highlighting the additional function of the ILWC which is its ability to convey large quantities of water during storms!

All these fantastic qualities, its prime location, and its impact on our local environment has won the ILWC title of priority 30X30 project in the Climate Change Resilience category for the Power in Nature Southland Regional Group! This recognition will help

raise awareness about the importance of the completion of the Wildlife Corridor and the benefits it provides to our region.

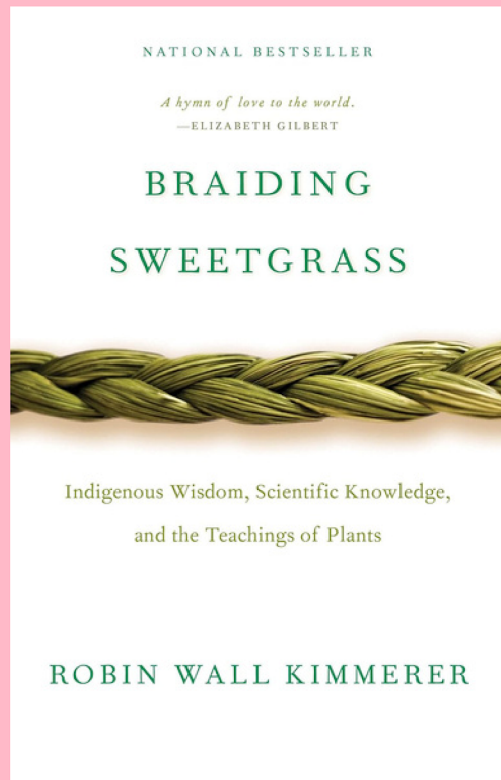
Our love for this project grows more and more annually, and this past year we have been able to share this love with you all with our new friend Bynx the Bobcat. Not only has this campaign reached our traditional audience, but has also introduced the issues of habitat fragmentation and wildlife conservation to new friends we've made at local events and online! As we work towards the completion of the ILWC we hope our audience continues to grow and join us on this journey towards a connected Orange County.

## T-SHIRTS STILL AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE!



Make your selection & purchase at  
<https://wildlifecorridor.org/shop/>

# REIGNITE YOUR LOVE WITH NATURE: A READING LIST



How we can turn to nature for teachings from the words and experiences of a Native American botanist.



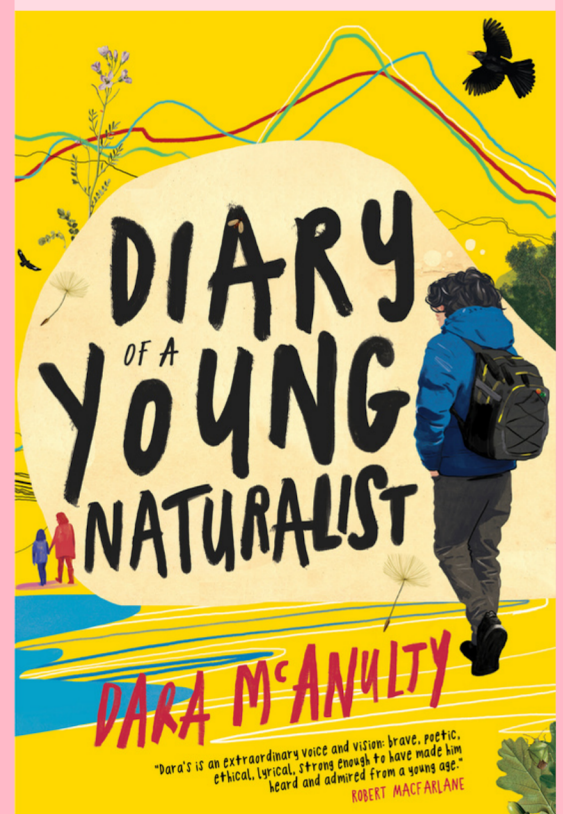
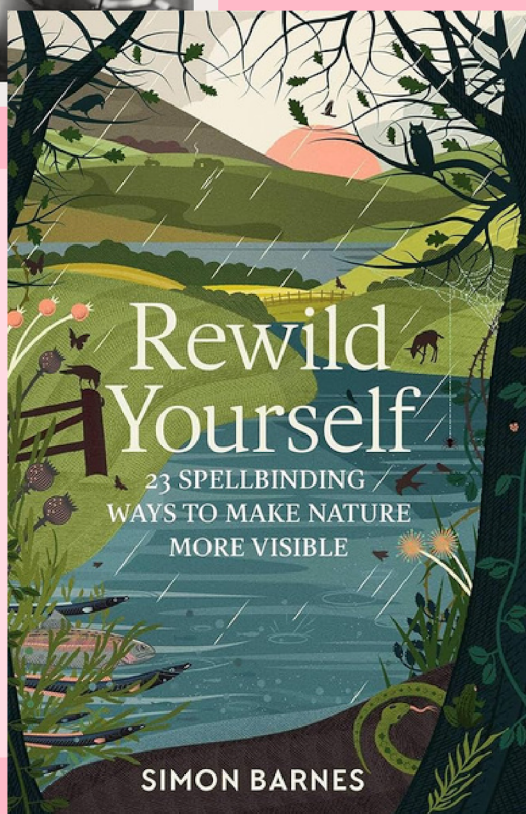
The Peace of Wild Things  
Wendell Berry



Take a break. Use poetry to remind you of our world's beauty.

See nature in a different light. The unique perspective of an autistic conservationist.

Increase your awareness of nature and your surroundings. Kid friendly!



# SHOW YOUR LOVE FOR NATURE!

## Restoration at Huntington Beach Wetlands Conservancy

**February 17th @ 9 AM - 12 PM**



You'll be getting your hands dirty by removing invasive species, planting native species, and/or doing debris clean-up around the site. It is also a wonderful chance to expand your knowledge of wetland ecosystems and native flora.

**Follow the link  
to register**

<https://bit.ly/3uwwieo>

## Discovery Hike

**February 27th @ 8:30 AM**



Explore Aliso and Wood Canyons Wilderness Park, where you might see deer, bobcats, and hawks. Enjoy wildlife sounds, smells, and sights on this moderate 5-mile hike on rocky terrain (with less than 500 ft. elevation gain).

**Follow the link  
to register**

<https://bit.ly/3Sw2VAE>



Community volunteers made a lasting impact at OC Parks' Keep it Wild Nursery Day event this past January! You too can help remove invasive weeds and plant natives in their nursery! For future events visit

<https://ocparks.com/events>



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Laguna Greenbelt, Inc. works to preserve open space and support wildlife that depend on local habitats to thrive.



Donate at:  
<https://lagunagreenbelt.org/donate-2/>

XOXO

Mail checks to  
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